

NEWS RELEASE



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SOUTHEAST INFORMATION OFFICE: Atlanta, Ga.

Technical information: (404) 893-4222 • BLSInfoAtlanta@bls.gov • www.bls.gov/regions/southeast

Media contact: (404) 893-4220

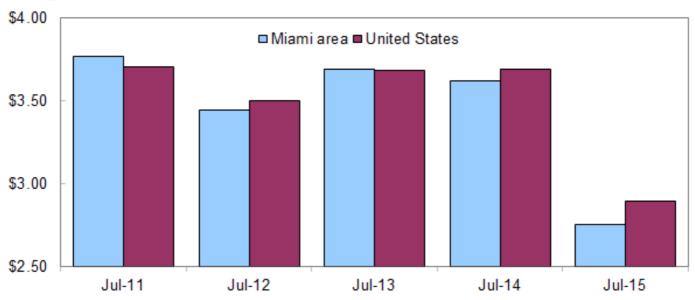
Average Energy Prices, Miami-Fort Lauderdale – July 2015

Gasoline prices averaged \$2.752 a gallon in the Miami-Fort Lauderdale area in July 2015, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that area gasoline prices were down \$0.872 compared to last July when they averaged \$3.624 per gallon. Miami area households paid an average of 11.6 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity in July 2015, less than the 12.1 cents per kWh in July 2014. The average price of utility (piped) gas at \$1.518 per therm in July, was less than the \$1.634 per therm spent last year. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Miami area consumers paid \$2.752 a gallon for gasoline in July 2015, 4.9 percent less than the \$2.893 paid nationally. A year earlier, consumers in the Miami area paid \$3.624 for a gallon of gas which compared to the national average. The average price for a gallon of gasoline in Miami in the month of July has been similar to the nation in four of the last five years. (See chart 1.)

Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, Miami-Fort Lauderdale and the United States, 2011-2015 (as of July)

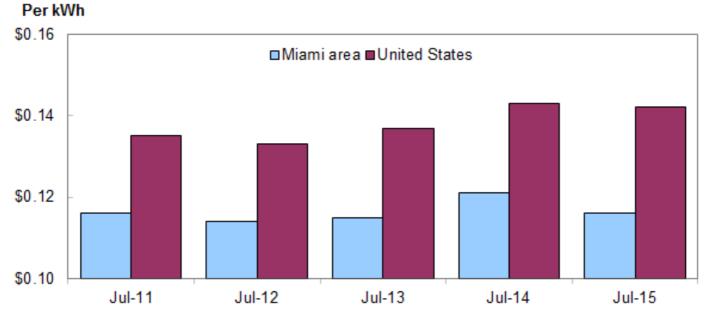
Per gallon



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 11.6 cents per kWh Miami households paid for electricity in July 2015 was 18.3 percent less than the nationwide average of 14.2 cents per kWh. Last July, electricity costs were 15.4 percent lower in Miami compared to the nation. The local price of electricity in the Miami area in July was at least 14 percent less than the U.S. in each of the last five years. (See <u>chart 2</u>.)

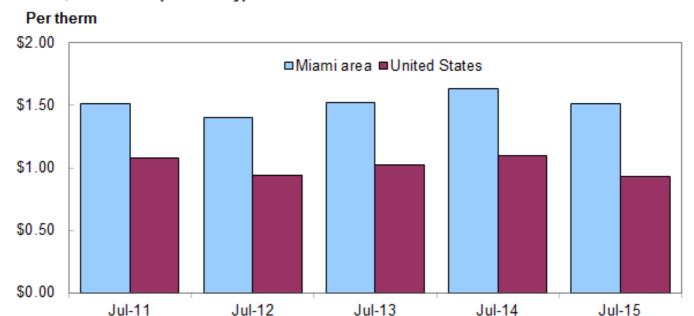
Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, Miami-Fort Lauderdale and the United States, 2011-2015 (as of July)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Prices paid by Miami area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, were \$1.518 per therm, or 62.7 percent higher than the national average in July 2015 (\$0.933 per therm). A year earlier, area consumers paid 49.5 percent more per therm for natural gas than the nation. In the past five years, the per therm cost for natural gas in the Miami area exceeded the U.S. average by more than 40 percent in the month of July. (See <u>chart 3</u>.)

Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, Miami-Fort Lauderdale and the United States, 2011-2015 (as of July)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The **Miami-Fort Lauderdale**, **Fla.**, **Metropolitan Statistical Area** consists of Broward and Miami-Dade Counties in Florida.

The August 2015 Consumer Price Index for the Miami-Fort Lauderdale area is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, September 16, 2015.

Technical Note

Average prices are estimated from Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for selected commodity series to support the research and analytic needs of CPI data users. Average prices for electricity, utility (piped) gas, and gasoline are published monthly for the U.S. city average, the 4 regions, the 3 population size classes, 10 region/size-class cross-classifications, and the 14 largest local index areas. For electricity, average prices per kilowatt-hour (kWh) are published. For utility (piped) gas, average prices per therm are published. For gasoline, the average price per gallon is published. Average prices for commonly available grades of gasoline are published as well as the average price across all grades.

All eligible prices are converted to a price per normalized quantity. These prices are then used to estimate a price for a defined fixed quantity. The average price per kilowatt-hour represents the total bill divided by the kilowatt-hour usage. The total bill is the sum of all items applicable to all consumers appearing on an electricity bill including, but not limited to, variable rates per kWh, fixed costs, taxes, surcharges, and credits. This calculation also applies to the average price per therm for utility (piped) gas.

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Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, Miami-Fort Lauderdale and the United States, July 2014-2015, not seasonally adjusted

	Gasoline per gallon		Electricity per kWh		Utility (piped) gas per therm	
		United		United		
Year and month	Miami area	States	Miami area	States	Miami area	United States
2014						
July	3.624	3.690	0.121	0.143	1.634	1.093
August	3.451	3.540	0.121	0.143	1.598	1.060
September	3.388	3.463	0.121	0.141	1.589	1.058
October	3.248	3.241	0.121	0.136	1.585	1.033
November	2.969	2.945	0.110	0.134	1.552	1.035
December	2.696	2.618	0.121	0.135	1.590	1.060
2015						
January	2.274	2.170	0.118	0.138	1.590	1.036
February	2.329	2.308	0.118	0.138	1.530	1.007
March	2.521	2.544	0.119	0.136	1.531	0.985
April	2.570	2.545	0.119	0.137	1.507	0.947
May	2.687	2.832	0.116	0.137	1.529	0.930
June	2.776	2.889	0.116	0.143	1.547	0.942
July	2.752	2.893	0.116	0.142	1.518	0.933